FOREST ADMINISTRATION REPORT

OF THE

NORTHERN CIRCLE, BOMBAY PRESIDENCY,

FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1889-90.

INTRODUCTION.

Forest administration in the Northern Circle has, the Conservator believes and he hopes he will show this by his report, maintained a healthy progressive advancement in every direction during the year 1889-90.

2. The net increase of the area of reserved and protected forests, finally constituted under the Forest Act, during the year, has amounted to 107 square miles and 329 acres, and in addition thereto 454 square miles and 610 acres have been provisionally notified under sections 4 and 28, of which 194 square miles and 117 acres are proposed Reserved Forests awaiting treatment by the Forest Settlement Officer.

3. Settlement inquiries connected with 456 square miles of reserved forests were undertaken and completed during the year.

4. 2,269 miles of forest boundaries have been defined upon the ground by 28,398 newly constructed special forest boundary marks.

5. The Privilege Code of the Khándesh forests has been revised by the local Revenue and Forest officers, with the sanction of Government, after the rules had been discussed in Committee.

6. A notable occurrence of the year has been the passing of the orders of Government in their Resolution No. 6303, dated 27th August 1889, on the report of the Forest Commission which had been appointed by His Excellency the Governor in Council, in the year 1885, to inquire into forest management, more particularly in respect of the Thána and Kolába Collectorates.

7. The Working Plans Division has made considerable headway in the Konkan, its operations having been confined practically to the Thána forests, where a systematic arrangement of conservancy and works is more immediately demanded than in the Deccan or Gujarát, and satisfactory progress has been made in marking out compartments on the ground in both the Thána Divisions.

8. The Forest Survey Party, under the superintendence and direction of Colonel Pullan, has been working in the Thána, Násik, Poona and Sátára Divisions, and has rendered a good account of itself by outturn of work: 105 square miles having been triangulated, 830·63 square miles traverse surveyed, and detailed internal surveys having covered 20·18 miles on the 16 inches scale, 84·48 square miles on the 8 inches scale, and 70·34 square miles on the 4 inches.

9. No change in the constitution and numerical strength of the superior and of the subordinate forest establishments has been made. But a very strong representative Committee of Revenue and Forest officers has, under the orders of Government, been engaged in considering and reporting upon the reorganization of the subordinate staff, both protective and office. The proposals, which have been submitted, provide for considerable increases in numerical strength, for more encouraging prospects in pay, promotions and pensions, and for a better educated class of subordinates.

10. The rainfall in the more eastern portion of the Deccan was deferred, capricious and below the average; and consequently conditions were not favourable to reproduction, natural as well as artificial.

11. Fire conservancy was more satisfactory than in the preceding year, the percentage of area burnt to the total forest area being 16·0 against 18·7 in 1888-89.

12. Protection against forest offences has been very fair: 17·5 per cent. of prosecuted offences have been unsuccessful against 24·7 per cent. of failures of the year preceding. Eighty-seven other cases have been treated under the Land Revenue

Code, and 7,926 cases have been compounded under section 67 of the Forest Act, and a total sum of Rs. 17,074-15-1 has been received in payment of compensation for damages.

13. 197,366 cattle, including 64,059 sheep and 41,626 goats, have been impounded for trespassing in closed forests.

14. 12,95,717 cattle have been provided with pasturage in open forests on payment of fees; and 803,016 cattle have enjoyed free grazing inside the open forests.

15. The revenues from fodder grass and grazing have continued to increase on the whole, although in some divisions the receipts are not so high as of the year before.

16. The financial results of the year have been still more brilliant than of the preceding year, the revenue of which had broken the record up to that date.

17. The following statement will show the names of the superior Forest officers, who have been conducting the administration of the forests during the year and the stations they have occupied, with other particulars :—

Northern Circle.

Mr. A. T. Shuttleworth, Conservator of Forests, 1st Grade, throughout the year.

No.	Forest Division.	Name of Officer.	Rank.	Designation.	From	To	Remarks.
1	North Thána ..	Mr. A. D. Wilkins ..	Deputy Conservator of Forests, 4th Grade.	Divisional Forest Officer.	1st April 1889 ..	31st October 1889.	
		,, F. Gleadow ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	1st Nov. 1889 ..	31st March 1890.	
		,, J. H. Clabby ..	Sub. *pro-tem.* Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	North Sub-division Forest Officer.	1st April 1889 ..	20th May 1889.	
		,, J. Baptista ..	Acting do.	Do. ..	21st May 1889 ..	1st July 1889.	
		,, A. R. Maidment.	Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Do. ..	2nd July 1889 ..	19th do.	
		,, J. Baptista ..	Acting do.	Do. ..	20th do. ..	19th Dec. 1889.	
		,, A. C. Robinson..	Do. ..	Do. ..	20th Dec. 1889 ..	31st March 1890.	
		,, A. R. Maidment.	Sub-Assistant do.	South Sub-division Forest Officer.	1st April 1889 ..	19th July 1889.	
		,, J. Baptista ..	Acting do.	Do. ..	20th July 1889 ..	31st March 1890.	
2	South Thána ..	Mr. G. P. Millett ..	Assistant Conservator of Forests, 1st Grade.	Divisional Forest Officer.	1st April 1889 ..	Do.	
		,, R. H. Madan ..	Acting do. 3rd Grade.	North Sub-division Forest Officer.	Do.	9th Sept. 1889.	
		,, J. H. Clabby ..	Sub. *pro-tem.* Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Do. ..	10th Sept. 1889 ..	27th October 1889.	
		,, R. H. Madan ..	Acting Assistant do.	Do. ..	28th October 1889	21st Feb. 1890.	
		,, J. H. Clabby ..	Sub. *pro-tem.* Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Do. ..	22nd Feb. 1889 ..	31st March 1890.	
		,, G. P. Millett ..	Assistant Conservator of Forests, 1st Grade.	South Sub-division Forest Officer.	1st April 1889 ..	21st May 1889.	
		,, J. H. Clabby ..	Sub. *pro-tem.* Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Do. ..	22nd May 1889 ..	31st March 1890.	
3	East Khándesh..	Mr. F. R. Desai ..	Deputy Conservator of Forests, 1st Grade.	Divisional Forest Officer.	1st April 1889 ..	Do.	
4	West Khándesh	Mr. R. S. F. Fagan..	Do. 4th Grade.	Do. ..	Do.	24th August 1889.	
		,, F. R. Desai ..	Do. 1st Grade.	Do. ..	25th Augst 1889..	24th Sept. 1889.	
		,, R. S. F. Fagan..	Do. 4th Grade.	Do. ..	25th Sept. 1889 ..	31st March 1890.	
		,, G. S. Hinge ..	Sub. *pro-tem.* Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Sub-division Forest Officer.	1st April 1889 ..	Do.	
5	Násik	Mr. W. G. Betham ..	Deputy Conservator of Forests, 2nd Grade.	Divisional Forest Officer.	Do.	Do.	
		,, W. A. Wallinger.	Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Sub-division Forest Officer.	Do.	Do.	
6	Ahmednagar ..	Mr. H. Mainwaring..	Deputy do.	Divisional Forest Officer.	Do.	31st October 1889.	
		,, A. D. Wilkins .	Do. 4th Grade.	Do. ..	1st Nov. 1889 ..	31st March 1890.	
7	Poona	Mr. R. C. Wroughton	Do. 2nd Grade.	Do. ..	1st April 1889 ..	Do.	
		,, W. R. Gaunde ..	Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 2nd Grade.	Sub-division Forest Officer.	Do.	Do.	
8	Sátára	Mr. C. Greatheed ..	Deputy Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Divisional Forest Officer.	Do.	11th Sept. 1889.	
		,, R. H. Madan ..	Acting Assistant do.	Do. ..	12th Sept. 1889 ..	26th October 1889.	
		,, C. Greatheed .	Deputy do.	Do. ..	27th October 1889	31st March 1890.	
		,, L. D. Joshi ..	Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, 1st Grade.	Sub-division Forest Officer.	1st April 1889 ..	Do.	
9	Sholápur ..	Mr. H. Mainwaring..	Deputy Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Divisional Forest Officer.	Do.	17th October 1889.	
		,, S. Hornidge ..	Assistant Conservator of Forests, 1st Grade.	Do. ..	18th October 1889	31st March 1890.	
10	Surat	Mr. W. S. Hexton ..	Deputy do.	Do. ..	1st April 1889 ..	30th Jan. 1890.	
		,, G. B. Reid, C.S. .	Collector..	Do. ..	31st January 1890	1st Feb. 1890.	
		,, Darasha Dosabhai.	City Magistrate ..	Do. ..	2nd Feb. 1890 ..	23rd Feb. 1890.	
		,, R. H. Madan ..	Acting Assistant Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Do. ..	24th Feb. 1890 ..	31st March 1890.	
11	Panch Mahás ..	Mr. H. W. Keys ..	Assistant Conservator of Forests, 1st Grade.	Do. ..	1st April 1889 ..	Do.	
12	Working Plans ..	Mr. T. B. Fry ..	Deputy Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade.	Do. ..	Do.	Do.	